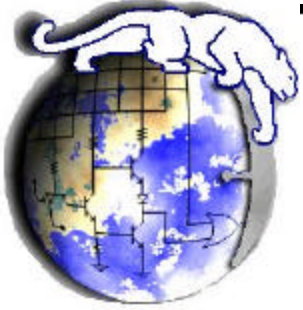


# ***Parametric Filters For Non-Stationary Interference Mitigation in Airborne Radars***

Peter Parker and A. Lee Swindlehurst

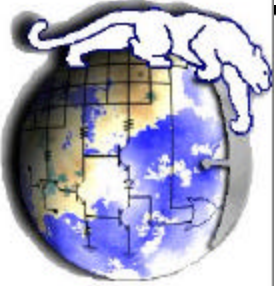
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Report Documentation Page			Form Approved OMB No. 0704-0188		
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1. REPORT DATE <b>14 MAR 2001</b>		2. REPORT TYPE <b>N/A</b>		3. DATES COVERED <b>-</b>	
4. TITLE AND SUBTITLE <b>Parametric Filters For Non Non-Stationary Interference Stationary Interference Mitigation in Airborne Mitigation in Airborne Radars</b>			5a. CONTRACT NUMBER		
			5b. GRANT NUMBER		
			5c. PROGRAM ELEMENT NUMBER		
6. AUTHOR(S) <b>Peter Parker; A. Lee Swindlehurst</b>			5d. PROJECT NUMBER		
			5e. TASK NUMBER		
			5f. WORK UNIT NUMBER		
7. PERFORMING ORGANIZATION NAME(S) AND ADDRESS(ES) <b>Brigham Young University Dept. of Electrical &amp; Computer Engineering Provo, UT 84602</b>			8. PERFORMING ORGANIZATION REPORT NUMBER		
9. SPONSORING/MONITORING AGENCY NAME(S) AND ADDRESS(ES) <b>Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency 3701 North Fairfax Drive Arlington, VA 22203-1714</b>			10. SPONSOR/MONITOR'S ACRONYM(S)		
			11. SPONSOR/MONITOR'S REPORT NUMBER(S)		
12. DISTRIBUTION/AVAILABILITY STATEMENT <b>Approved for public release, distribution unlimited</b>					
13. SUPPLEMENTARY NOTES <b>See ADM001263 for entire Adaptive Sensor Array Processing Workshop., The original document contains color images.</b>					
14. ABSTRACT <b>See briefing charts.</b>					
15. SUBJECT TERMS					
16. SECURITY CLASSIFICATION OF:			17. LIMITATION OF ABSTRACT <b>UU</b>	18. NUMBER OF PAGES <b>26</b>	19a. NAME OF RESPONSIBLE PERSON
a. REPORT <b>unclassified</b>	b. ABSTRACT <b>unclassified</b>	c. THIS PAGE <b>unclassified</b>			



## ***Motivation: Non-Stationary Interference***

- Rapidly changing clutter locus with a circular array or bistatic radar system
- Presence of hot clutter due to an airborne jammer
- Use model of non-stationary interference to derive new filter
- Use small sample support to reduce effect of non-stationary interference



# Data Model

- M antennas, N pulses
- Target in primary range bin p

$$\mathbf{x}_p(t) = b\mathbf{a}(\theta) e^{j\omega t} + \mathbf{c}_p(t), \quad t = 0, 1, 2, \dots, N-1$$

*spatial steering vector*

*clutter, jammer, noise, etc.*

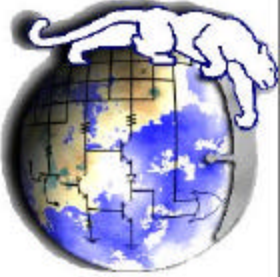
- Space-Time Slice

$$\mathbf{X}_p = [\mathbf{x}_p(0) \quad \mathbf{x}_p(1) \quad \dots \quad \mathbf{x}_p(N-1)]$$

$$= b\mathbf{a}(\theta) \mathbf{v}^T(\omega) + \mathbf{C}_p$$

*temporal steering vector*

$$= [1 \quad e^{j\omega/T_s} \quad \dots \quad e^{j(N-1)\omega/T_s}]$$



## ***Data Model (cont.)***

- Vectorized Forms

$$1. \quad \mathbf{x}_p = \text{vec}(\mathbf{X}_p) \\ = b \mathbf{v}(\mathbf{w}) \otimes \mathbf{a}(\mathbf{q}) + \mathbf{c}_p$$

$$2. \quad \mathbf{x}_p = \text{vec}(\mathbf{X}_p^T) \\ = b \mathbf{a}(\mathbf{q}) \otimes \mathbf{v}(\mathbf{w}) + \mathbf{c}_p$$

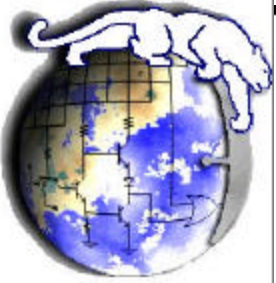
- Secondary Data

*target-free  
range bins*

$$\{\mathbf{c}_k\} \quad k = 1, \dots, N_s \quad k \neq p$$

$$E(\mathbf{c}_k) = 0 \quad , \quad E(\mathbf{c}_k \mathbf{c}_k^*) = \mathbf{R}$$

*interference  
covariance*



# Space-Time Autoregressive Modeling

- Define  $H(z^{-1}) = \sum_{i=0}^{L-1} \mathbf{H}_i z^{-i}$
  - Model: for some  $L$ ,
- $$H(z^{-1})\mathbf{c}_k(t) = \mathbf{H}_0\mathbf{c}_k(t) + \mathbf{H}_1\mathbf{c}_k(t-1) + \dots + \mathbf{H}_{L-1}\mathbf{c}_k(t-L+1) = \varepsilon_k(t)$$

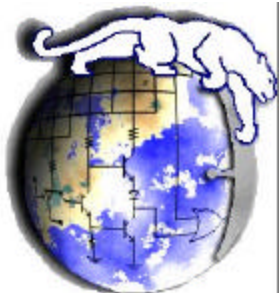
*M' x M matrices*

is spatially and temporally white

- To estimate  $H(z^{-1})$ , solve

$$\min_{\mathbf{H}_0, \dots, \mathbf{H}_L} \sum_{k=1}^{N_s} \sum_{i=L}^N \left\| H(z^{-1})\mathbf{c}_k(i) \right\|^2$$

*closed-form  
least-squares  
solution*



## Filtering the Primary Data

STAR filter attempts to minimize clutter power:

dimension  $M'(N-L+1) \times 1$

$$\epsilon_k = \begin{bmatrix} H_{L-1} & H_{L-2} & \dots & H_0 & 0 & \dots & 0 \\ 0 & \ddots & & \ddots & & \ddots & \vdots \\ \vdots & & \ddots & & & \ddots & 0 \\ 0 & \dots & 0 & H_{L-1} & H_{L-2} & \dots & H_0 \end{bmatrix} \mathbf{c}_k = \mathcal{H} \mathbf{C}_k$$

$\text{Span}(\mathcal{H})$  orthogonal to clutter subspace if it dominates white noise:

$$\mathbf{R} = \mathbf{H}^\perp \mathbf{Q} \mathbf{H}^{\perp *} + \sigma^2 \mathbf{I}$$

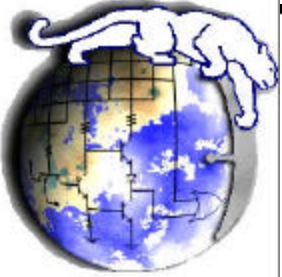
*clutter & jamming*

*white (thermal) noise*

so we project onto the orthogonal subspace using a matched subspace filter:

$$\mathbf{x}'_p = \mathbf{H}^* \underbrace{(\mathbf{H} \mathbf{H}^*)^{-1}}_{\text{banded block Toeplitz}} \mathbf{H} \mathbf{x}_p$$

*banded block Toeplitz*



## Algorithm Summary

1. Use SVD on secondary data to solve for  $[\mathbf{H}_0 \ \mathbf{H}_1 \ \dots \ \mathbf{H}_{L-1}]$

*computational order:*  $O(N_s M^2 L^2 (N - L + 1))$

2. Form  $\mathcal{H}$  and filter data:  $\mathbf{P}_{\mathcal{H}^*} \mathbf{x}_p$

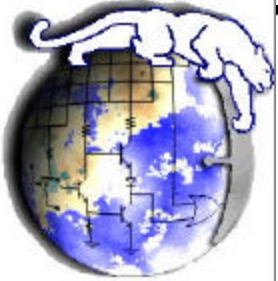
*computational order:*  $O(M' M^2 L^2 (N - L + 1))$

3. Perform regular beam and Doppler filtering for detection

*computational order:* negligible

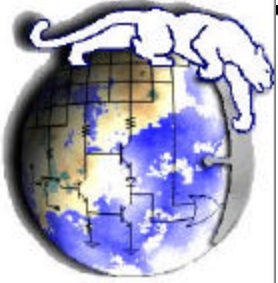
Resultant test statistic is  $(\mathbf{v} \otimes \mathbf{a})^* \mathbf{P}_{\mathcal{H}^*} \mathbf{x}_p$  not  $(\mathbf{v} \otimes \mathbf{a})^* \mathbf{R}^{-1} \mathbf{x}_p$





## ***Prior Work***

- Vector AR models used previously for clutter modeling by Michels, Rangaswamy, etc.
- Standard STAP filters extended to handle range-varying and hot clutter models by Zatman, Rabideau, etc.
- Matched subspace detectors used for subspace interference by Scharf
- Here, we extend the parametric model to handle the non-stationary interference



# Range-Varying STAR Filter

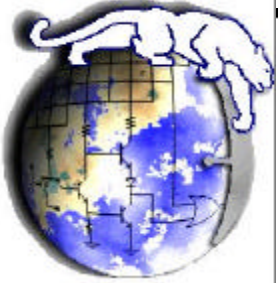
- To improve performance at short ranges, use linearly varying matrix coefficients:

$$\sum_{i=0}^{L-1} \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{H}_i & \Delta \mathbf{H}_i \end{bmatrix} \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{c}_k(t-i) \\ \alpha k \mathbf{c}_k(t-i) \end{bmatrix} = \varepsilon_k(t), \quad t = L+1, \dots, N$$

$\mathbf{H}_i$  and  $\Delta \mathbf{H}_i$  are  $M' \times M$  matrices.  
 $\mathbf{c}_k(t-i)$  is the extended data vector.  
 $\varepsilon_k(t)$  is spatially and temporally white.

- Analogous to ESMI technique of Hayward
- To normalized the noise subspace

$$\alpha = \sqrt{\frac{12}{(N_s + 2)(N_s + 1)}}$$



# Range-Varying STAR Filter

- Minimize clutter power assuming linearly varying statistics

$$\mathbf{e}_k = \tilde{\mathcal{H}} \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{c}_k \\ a k \mathbf{c}_k \end{bmatrix}$$

where

$$\tilde{\mathcal{H}} = \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{H}_{L-1} & \mathbf{L} & \mathbf{H}_0 & \mathbf{0} & \Delta \mathbf{H}_{L-1} & \mathbf{L} & \Delta \mathbf{H}_0 & \mathbf{0} \\ & \mathbf{0} & & \mathbf{0} & & \mathbf{0} & & \mathbf{0} \\ \mathbf{0} & & \mathbf{H}_{L-1} & \mathbf{L} & \mathbf{H}_0 & \mathbf{0} & \Delta \mathbf{H}_{L-1} & \mathbf{L} & \Delta \mathbf{H}_0 \end{bmatrix}$$

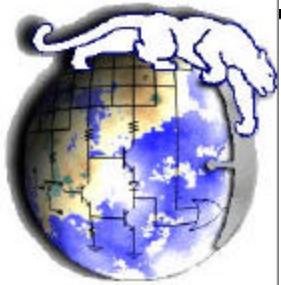
*$\mathcal{H}$  from STAR filter* (points to  $\mathbf{H}_{L-1}$  and  $\mathbf{H}_0$ )

*Extended STAR filter coefficients  $\Delta \mathcal{H}$*  (points to  $\Delta \mathbf{H}_{L-1}$  and  $\Delta \mathbf{H}_0$ )

- Filter data with matched subspace filter

$$\mathbf{x}'_p = \tilde{\mathcal{H}}^* (\tilde{\mathcal{H}} \tilde{\mathcal{H}}^*)^{-1} \tilde{\mathcal{H}} \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{x}_p \\ \mathbf{0} \end{bmatrix} = \mathbf{P}_{\tilde{\mathcal{H}}^*} \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{x}_p \\ \mathbf{0} \end{bmatrix}$$

*$k=0$  for primary range bin* (points to the  $\mathbf{0}$  vector in the input vector)



# Range-Varying STAR Filter

- Define

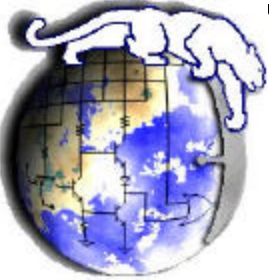
$$\mathbf{C}_k = \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{c}_k(L+1) & \dots & \mathbf{c}_k(N) \\ \vdots & \dots & \vdots \\ \mathbf{c}_k(1) & \dots & \mathbf{c}_k(N-L) \end{bmatrix}$$

- Estimate filter coefficients:

$$[\mathbf{H}_0 \quad \dots \quad \mathbf{H}_{L-1} \quad \Delta \mathbf{H}_0 \quad \dots \quad \Delta \mathbf{H}_{L-1}]$$

as the left singular vectors with the  $M'$  smallest singular values of the extended data matrix:

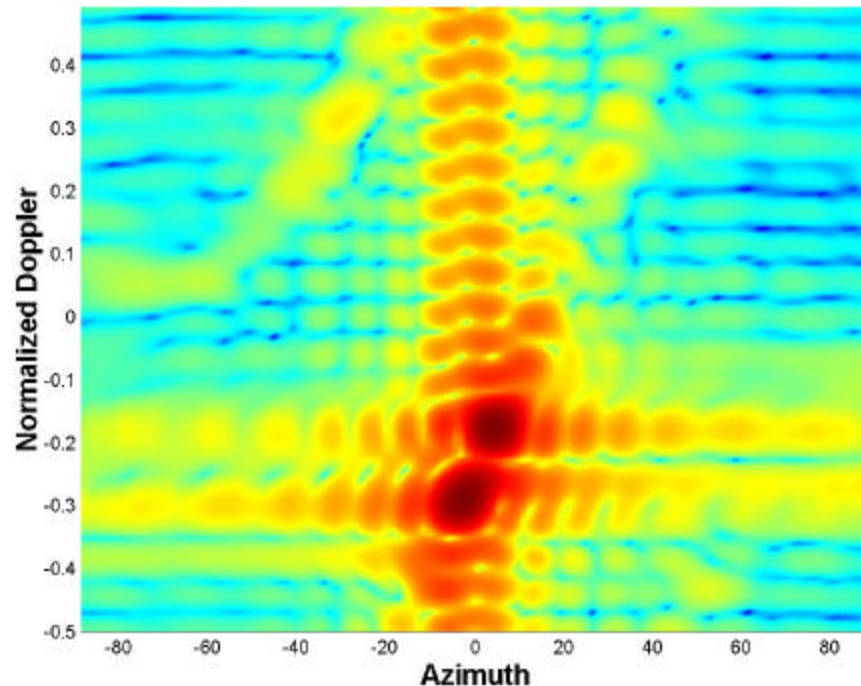
$$\begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{C}_{-N_s/2} & \dots & \mathbf{C}_{N_s/2} \\ -\frac{\alpha N_s}{2} \mathbf{C}_{-N_s/2} & \dots & \frac{\alpha N_s}{2} \mathbf{C}_{-N_s/2} \end{bmatrix}$$



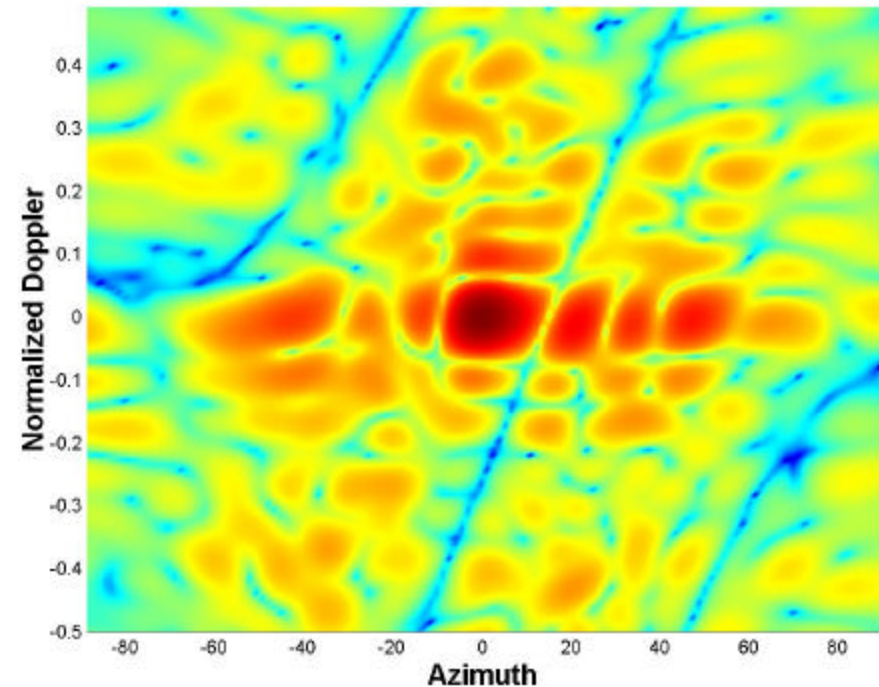
# ***ESTAR Filter Example***

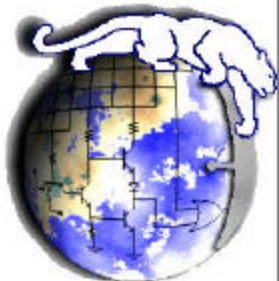
20 element circular array, 18 pulses  
SCR = -58dB SNR = 10dB

**Primary data vector snapshot at 20 km**



**4 tap ESTAR filter,  
20 secondary snapshots**





## Computational Comparison

Some typical numbers:  $M = 20$ ,  $N = 18$ ,  $M' = 20$

- STAR Filter (L=5):  $O(140,000N_s) + O(2,800,000)$

- ESTAR Filter (L=4):

$$O(4N_s M^2 L^2 (N - L + 1)) + O(M' M^2 L^2 (N - L + 1)) \\ = O(384,000N_s) + O(1,920,000)$$

- Extended PRI staggered algorithm:

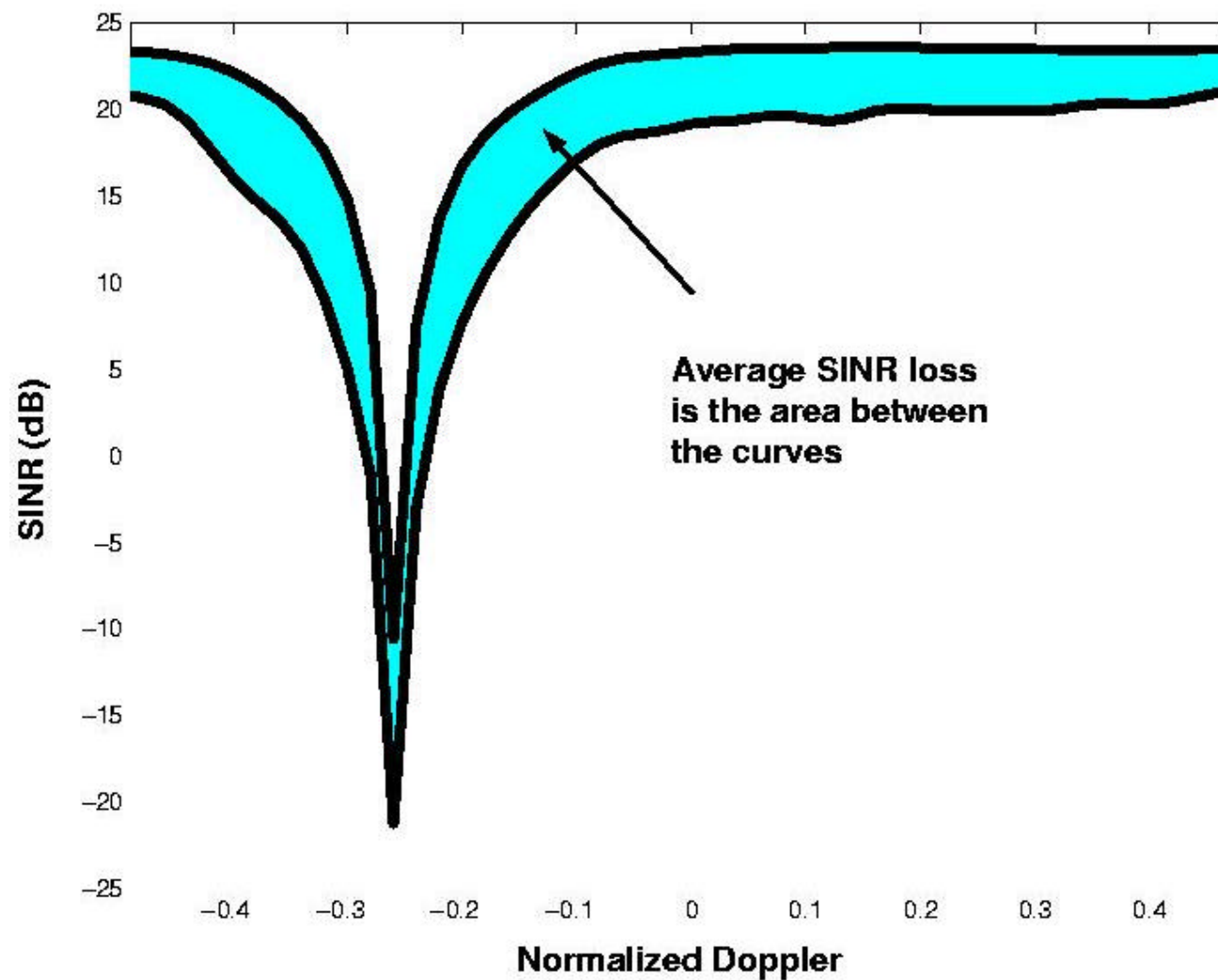
$$O(4N_s M^2 K^2 (N - K + 1)) + O(4\rho M^2 K^2 (N - K + 1)) = O(230,000N_s) + O(20,000,000)$$

# of sub-CPIs = 3

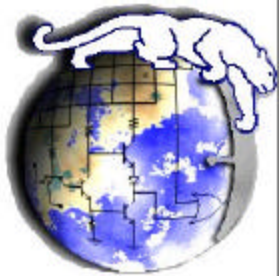
rank of sub-CPI covariance  $\cong 90$



## Average SINR Loss

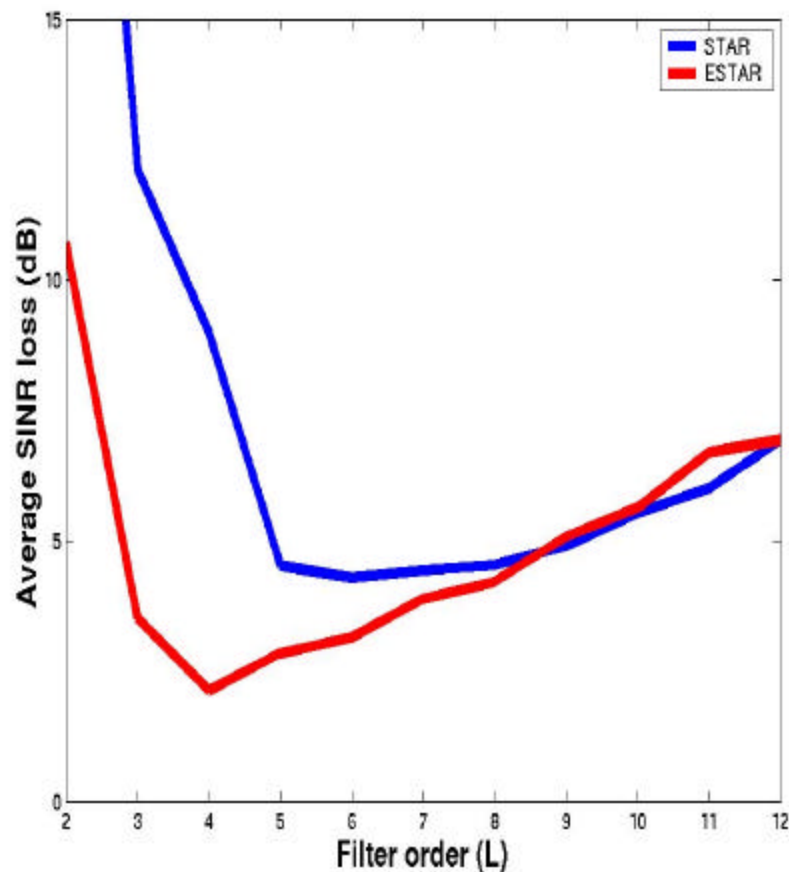




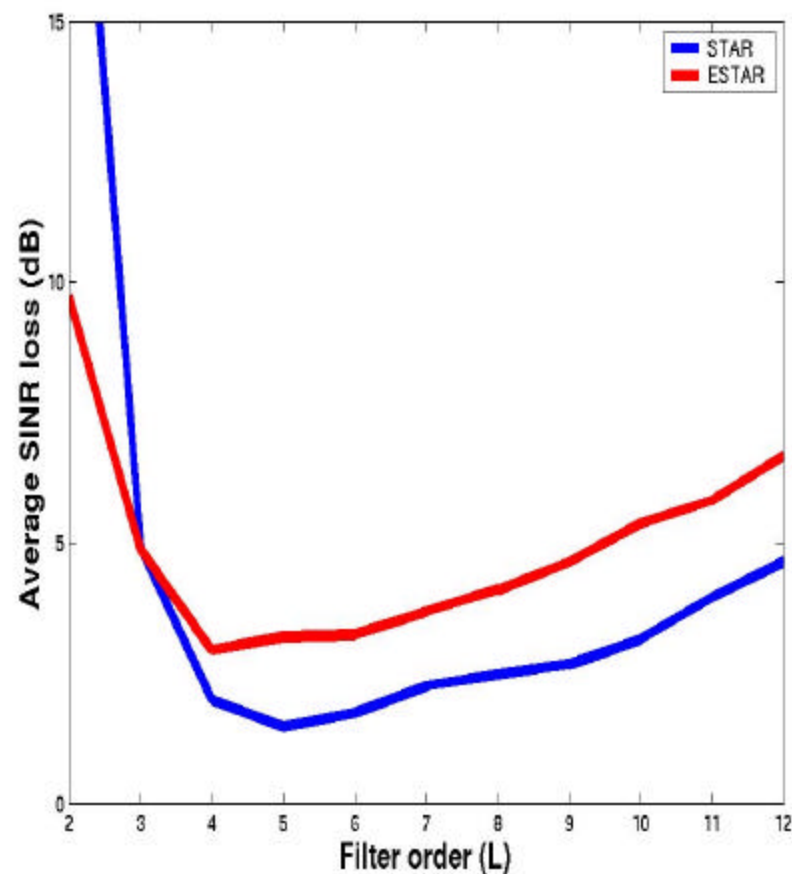


## Performance with Range-Varying Weights

20 km range

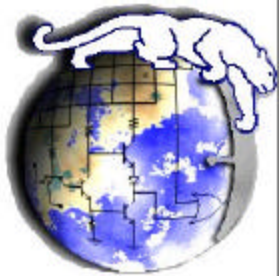


30 km range



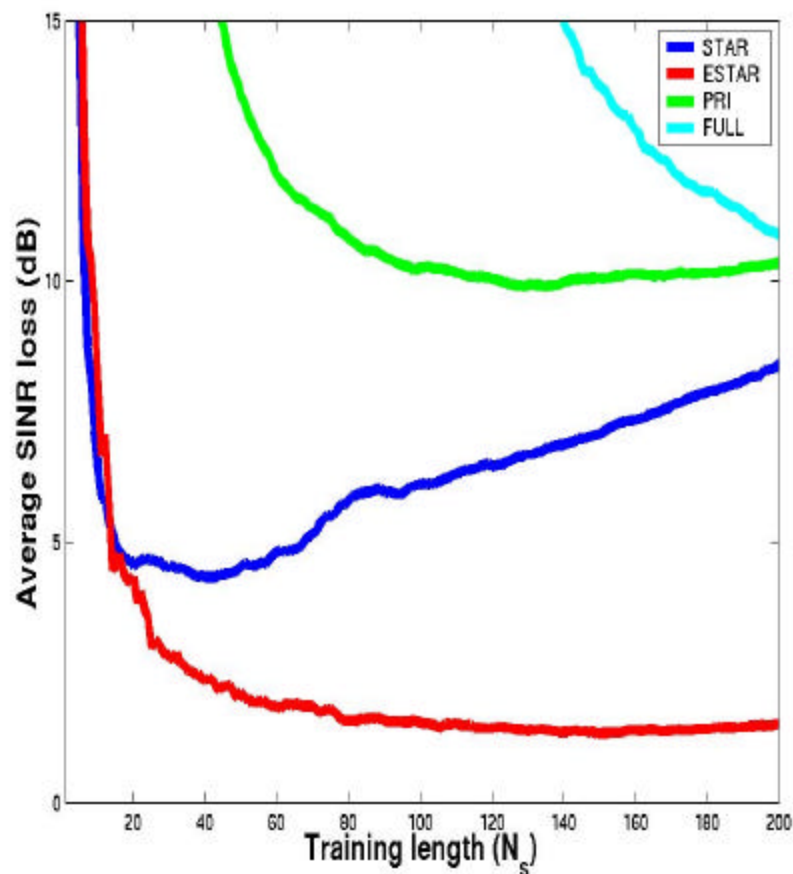
$N_s=50$  training vectors – 2 km training window



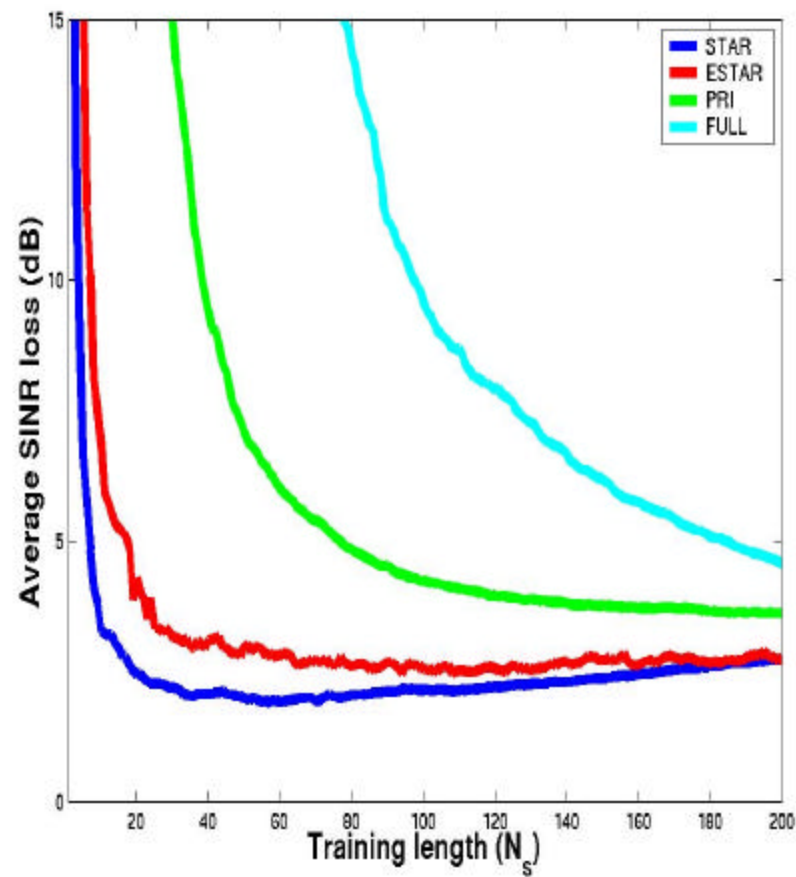


## Performance with Range-Varying Weights

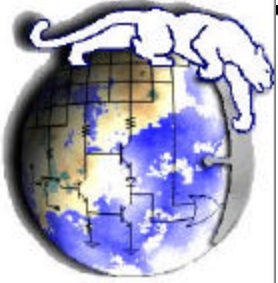
20 km range



30 km range

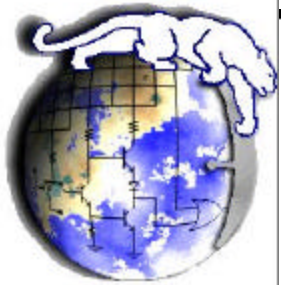


$L=5$  for STAR filter –  $L=4$  for ESTAR filter



## ***3-D STAR Filter for Hot Clutter***

- Update filter for each new pulse received
  - Derive slow-time varying STAR filter
  - Can be used with intrinsic clutter motion
- Add fast-time matrix taps to exploit correlations across range bins
  - Additional filter taps help mitigate mainbeam jamming signals

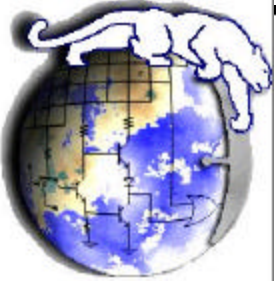


## Slow Time-Varying STAR Filter

- Same structure as the STAR filter but with new coefficients for each pulse

$$\mathcal{H}_{TV} = \begin{bmatrix} H_{L-1}(1) & \dots & H_0(1) & \dots & 0 \\ & \ddots & & \ddots & \\ 0 & H_{L-1}(N-L+1) & \dots & H_0(N-L+1) & \end{bmatrix}$$

- Additional sample support required due to additional parameters to model slow-time variation



## 3D-STAR Filter

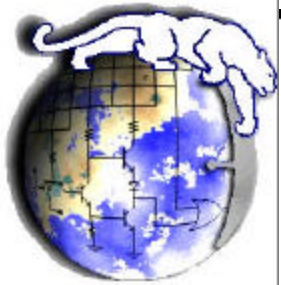
- Use slow-time varying STAR filter to model correlation across pulses
- For some fast-time filter order  $J$ , model the fast-time correlation as:

$$\sum_{j=0}^{J-1} \mathcal{H}_{TV,j} \mathbf{c}_{k-j} = \varepsilon_k, \quad k = J+1, \dots, P$$

*subscript denotes which fast-time sample  $\mathcal{H}$  is associated with*

*number of fast-time samples used to whiten data*

- Similar to a 2-D vector AR model with the slow-time taps changing with each pulse



## Estimation of Parameters

- Define

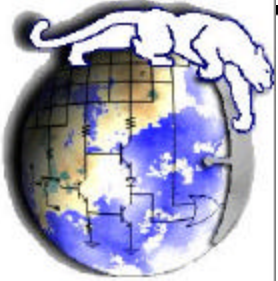
$$\tilde{\mathbf{H}}(t) = [\mathbf{H}_{0,0}(t) \quad \mathbf{H}_{1,0}(t) \quad \cdots \quad \mathbf{H}_{L-1,J-1}(t)]$$

$$\mathbf{g}_k(t) = \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{c}_k(t+L-1) \\ \vdots \\ \mathbf{c}_k(t) \end{bmatrix} \quad \mathbf{G}_k(t) = \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{g}_{k+J-1}(t) & \mathbf{g}_{k+P-1}(t) \\ \vdots & \vdots \\ \mathbf{g}_k(t) & \mathbf{g}_{k+P-J}(t) \end{bmatrix}$$

- Least squares solution:

$$\min_{\tilde{\mathbf{H}}(t)} \sum_{k=1}^{N_s} \left\| \tilde{\mathbf{H}}(t) \mathbf{G}_k(t) \right\|^2$$

- New minimization for each slow-time step



## Filtering the Primary Data

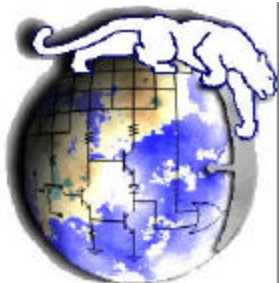
- 3D-STAR filter can be written as:

$$H = \begin{bmatrix} \mathcal{H}_{TV,J-1} & \cdots & \mathcal{H}_{TV,0} & \mathbf{0} \\ & \ddots & \ddots & \\ \mathbf{0} & & \mathcal{H}_{TV,J-1} & \cdots & \mathcal{H}_{TV,0} \end{bmatrix}$$

- Project out the interference using 3D matched subspace filter

$$\begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{x}'_p \\ \vdots \\ \mathbf{x}'_{p-P+1} \end{bmatrix} = H^* (H H^*)^{-1} H \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{x}_p \\ \vdots \\ \mathbf{x}_{p-P+1} \end{bmatrix} = P_H \begin{bmatrix} \mathbf{x}_p \\ \vdots \\ \mathbf{x}_{p-P+1} \end{bmatrix}$$

Highly structured nature of subspace, small sample support make full 3-D STAR solution feasible



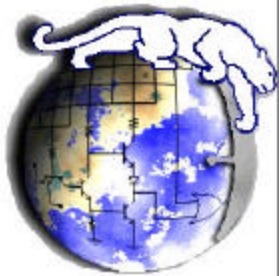
## Computational Comparison

Some typical numbers:  $M = 20$ ,  $N = 18$ ,  $M' = 20$ ,  $P = 3$

- STAR Filter (L=7):  $O(235,000N_s) + O(4,700,000)$
- 3D-STAR Filter (L=2):  $O(N_s (MLJ)^2 (N - L + 1)(P - J + 1))$   
 $+ O(M' (MLJ)^2 (N - L + 1)(P - J + 1))$
- J=2:  $O(218,000N_s) + O(4,350,000)$
- J=1:  $O(82,000N_s) + O(1,630,000)$
- Optimized 3D-post-Doppler algorithm:  
 $O(N_s (MKP)^2 (N - K + 1)) + O(\tilde{n} (MKP)^2 (N - K + 1)) = O(518,000N_s) + O(70,000,000)$ 

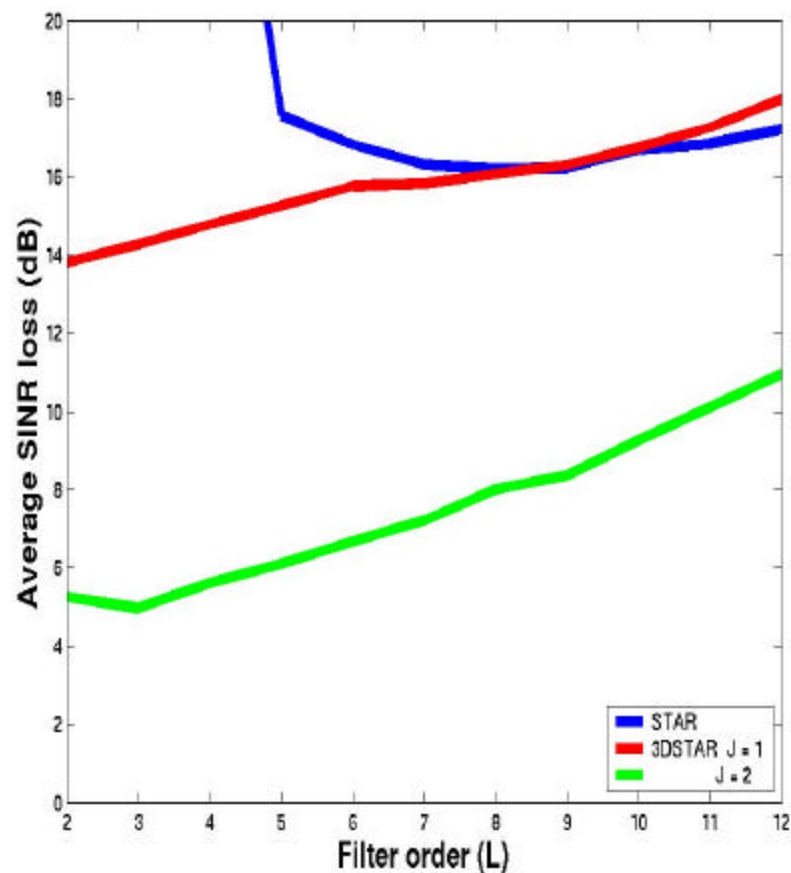
$\# \text{ of sub-CPIs} = 3$

$\text{rank of sub-CPI covariance} \cong 135$

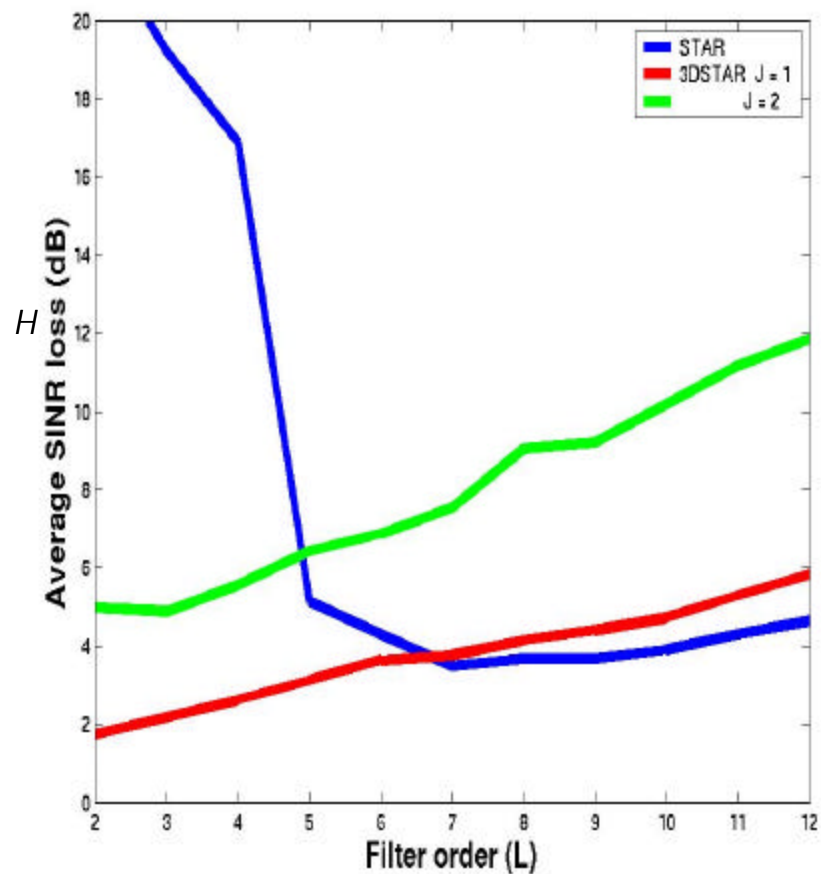


# Hot Clutter Examples

Direct path jamming signal  
in mainbeam: JDOA=1°

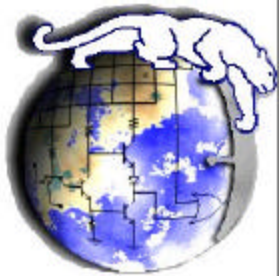


Only multipath component  
in mainbeam: JDOA=-20°



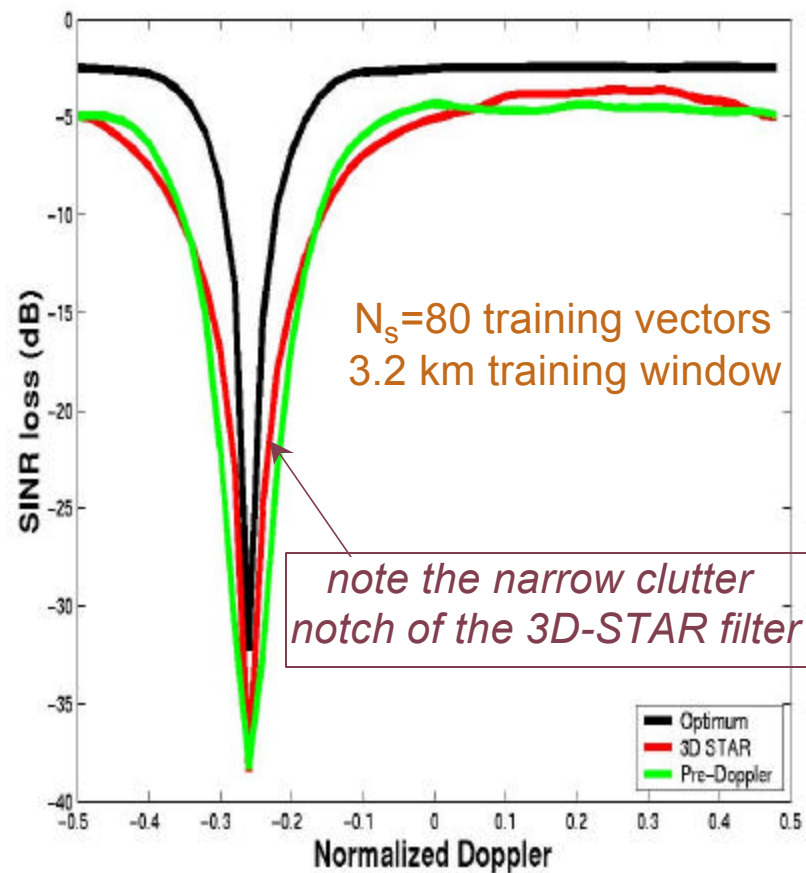
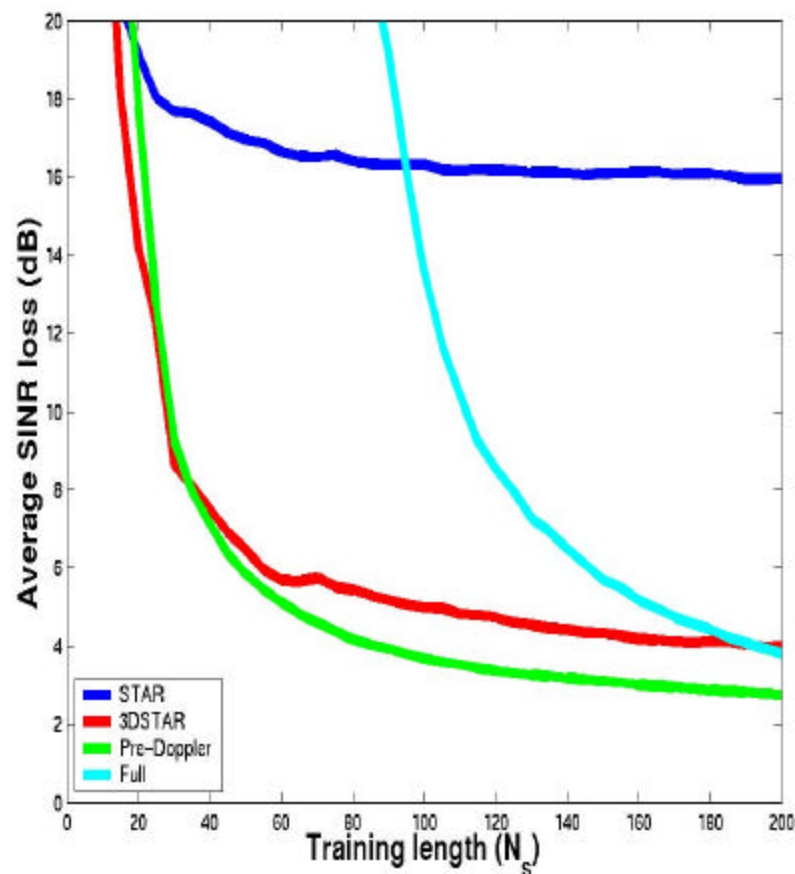
$N_s=100$  training vectors – 4 km training window



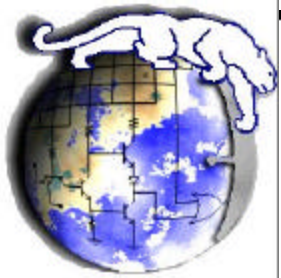


# Hot Clutter Examples

Direct path JDOA=1°

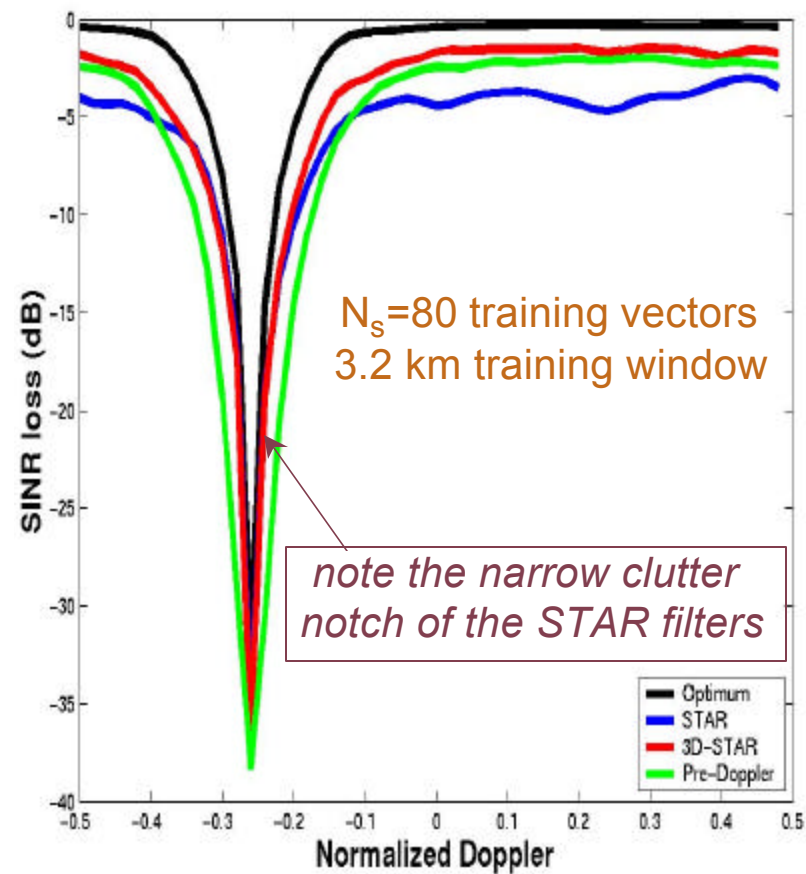
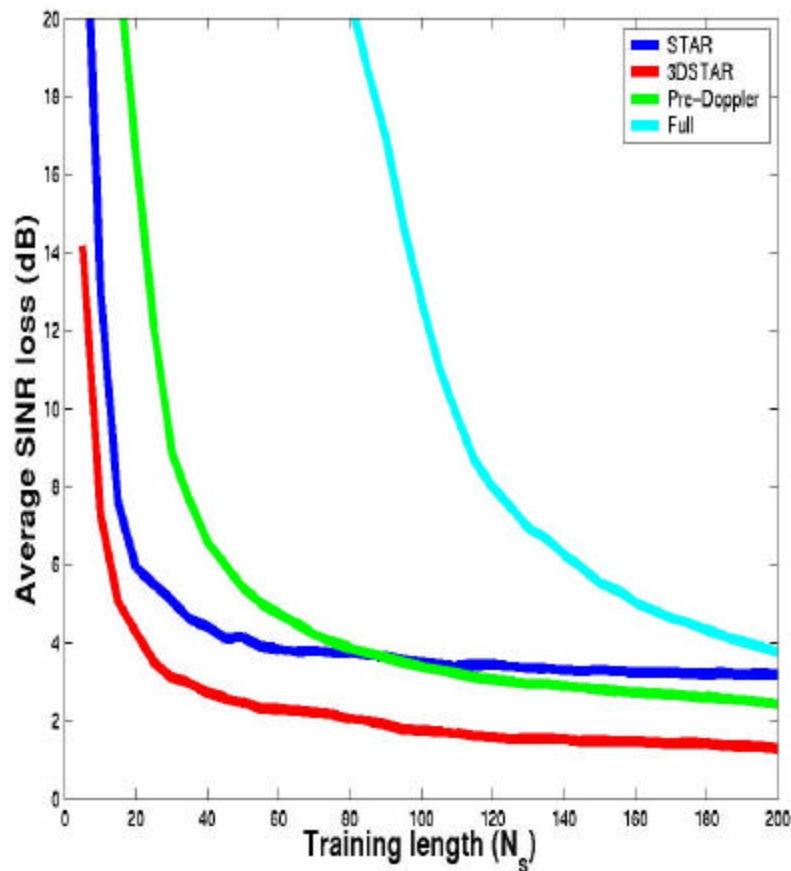


$L=2, J=2$  for 3D-STAR filter –  $L=7$  for STAR filter

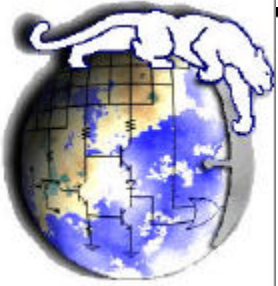


# Hot Clutter Examples

Direct path JDOA =  $-20^\circ$



$L=2, J=1$  for 3D-STAR filter –  $L=7$  for STAR filter



## ***Conclusions***

- STAR based filtering ideal for STAP problems that require small secondary sample support
- Easily extended to handle hot or range-varying clutter models
- Simulations with realistic circular array data show promising performance
- The structured nature of the filters leads to computationally efficient algorithms